

# FACILITATING SINGLE SIGN-ON BY USING AUTHENTICATED CODE TO ACCESS A PASSWORD STORE

## ABSTRACT

*Sub B16* → ~~One embodiment of the present invention provides a system that facilitates~~  
accessing to a plurality of applications that require passwords. When the system  
receives a request for a password from an application running on a remote  
computer system, the system first authenticates the request to ensure that it  
originated from a trusted source. Next, the system uses an identifier for the  
application to look up the password for the application in a password store, which  
contains passwords associated with the plurality of applications. If the password  
exists in the password store, the system sends the password or a function of the  
password to the application on the remote computer system. Hence, the system  
creates the illusion that there is a single sign on to a large number of applications,  
whereas in reality the system automatically provides different passwords to the  
applications as they are requested. In one embodiment of the present invention,  
the request for the password includes computer code that when run on the local  
computer system requests the password on behalf of the application on the remote  
computer system. In a variation on this embodiment, the computer code is in the  
form of a JAVA applet that runs on a JAVA virtual machine on the local  
computer system. In one embodiment of the present invention, the JAVA applet  
is a signed JAVA applet, and authenticating the request involves authenticating  
~~the JAVA applet's certificate chain.~~